

Message Text

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22

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 /023 W

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R 250840Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6380

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 11128

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EFIN, ID, JA, US

SUBJECT: INDONESIA-JAPAN LNG TRANSPORTATION

1. ON AUGUST 23, AT DEDICATION CEREMONY OF AIRCRAFT ASSEMBLY PLANT OPERATED UNDER AUSPICES PERTAMINA'S ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DIVISION, EMBOFF HAD CHANCE FOR BRIEF WOD WITH PERTAMINA PRESIDENT HARYONO ON STATUS OF TOKYO LNG TANKER TALKS. HARYONO SAID HE HAD SPOKEN THAT SAME MORNING WITH WIJARSO IN TOKYO WHO ADVISED THAT JAPANESE SEEMED WILLING TO MAKE "COMPROMISE" ON SUBSTITUTE VESSELS AND PRICES. (IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH BRITISH AMBASSADOR SAME CEREMONY, HARYONO SAID EVERYTHING STILL DEPENDED ON BURMAH'S LOWERING ITS FREIGHT RATES.)

2. HARYONO ALSO COMMENTED ON RECENT NEW YORK TIMES AND YOMIURI STORIES ON LNG TANKERS. SOMEWHAT SURPRISINGLY, HE SAID HE THOUGHT PUBLICITY WOULD BE HELPFUL TO INDONESIANS IN THEIR TALKS WITH JAPANESE. HE THOUGHT NEWSPAPER STORIES WOULD PUT "PRESSURE" ON JAPANESE TO WRAP UP DEAL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE SAID THIS WAS IMPRESSION CONVEYED TO HIM BY WIJARSO. (COMMENT: EMBASSY WAS APPROACHED TODAY ON SEPARATE OCCASIONS BY TWO OFFICERS FROM JAPANESE EMBASSY WHO WERE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON STORIES. WE SAID WE HAD LITTLE IN WAY OF DETAILS BUT ASKED FOR THEIR GENERAL IMPRESSIONS. ONE OFFICER SAID HE FEARED THIS MATTER COULD BE BLOWN UP INTO "LOCKHEED NO. 2" INCIDENT WITH VERY SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR

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JAPANESE SIDE IF NOT SETTLED QUICKLY. ON OTHER HAND, HE

SAID THERE WAS PRESSURE DEVELOPING AS RESULT THESE STORIES
NOT TO ENTER INTO ANY DEAL WITH BURMAH WHICH COULD TURN
INTO ANOTHER LOCKHEED AFFAIR. END COMMENT.)
NEWSOM

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